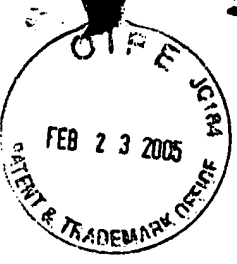


ITW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/653,175 Confirmation No. 3028  
Applicants : Simons, et al.  
Filed : September 3, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 2883  
Examiner : Kianni, Kaveh C.  
  
Docket No. : 301FO001  
Customer No. : not applicable

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Election of Species Requirement stated in the Office Action dated February 14, 2005, Applicants elect with traverse Group Invention I, Claims 9-15, including Claims 1-8.

The Election of Species Requirement asserts that the application contains claims to patentably distinct species of the claimed invention. However, MPEP §803 states the following:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the Election of Species Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Response dated February 17, 2005

Reply to Office Action of February 14, 2005

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to choose a single disclosed species within that invention be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of all the claims present in this application is in order, and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this paper and/or fee is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service First-Class mail on this 17<sup>th</sup>  
day of February, 2005 and is addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Karl D. Kovach

By Karl D. Kovach  
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Serial No.: 10/653,175

Case No.: 301FO001

Confirmation No.: 3028

Filed: September 3, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2883

Examiner: Kianni, Kaveh C.

LOW-PROFILE BACK PLANE  
INTERCONNECTION DEVICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT in the above-identified application.

☒ No fee required.

The claim fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED							
	(2) Claims Remaining After Amendment		(4) Highest No. Previously Paid for	(5) Present Extra	(6) Rate	(7) Additional Fee	
TOTAL CLAIMS		Minus		X	x 9.00 x 18.00	_____	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS		Minus		X	x 44.00 x 88.00	_____	
Application Amended to contain any multiple dependent claims not previously paid for				( ) Yes	x 150.00	_____	
				(X) No	x 300.00 ONE TIME	_____	
			TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR CLAIM CHANGES			_____	

\* If the entry in column 2 is less than the entry in column 4, write "0" in column 5.

\*\* If the "Highest Number previously paid for" IN THIS SPACE IS less than 20, write "20" in this space.

☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1413 for the \_\_\_\_\_ fee.☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to account No. 50-1413. In the event that any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent and Trademark Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit our Deposit Account No. 50-1413. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 CFR 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplication of this sheet is enclosed.

When phoning re this application, please call (708) 457-2767

BY: Karl D. KovachI HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES  
POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO:  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON FEBRUARY 17, 2005.Karl D. Kovach

Name of Applicant's Attorney

Karl D. Kovach

Signature

40,278

Registration Number